ABSTRACT

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CLUSTERING OF RETAIL TERMINALS

The invention provides a multi-processor data processing system comprising: (a) the processors of a plurality of point-of-sale terminals, and (b) a control processor; wherein the said processors of the plurality of point-of-sale terminals are interconnected in a network and are operable, under the control of the control processor, to concertedly perform data processing operations on bulk data, the said bulk data being subdivided; by the control processor, for processing by the individual processors of the plurality of point-of-sale terminals. The invention also provides a method of processing a bulk data set using a plurality of point-of-sale processors, and advantageously enables the processing power of interconnected point-of-sale terminals to be used as an high-capacity data processing resource.